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PATENT APPLICATION
Docket No. 2705-137

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re application of: Peter M. GITS and Dale J. SEAVEY

Serial No.: 09/698,779

Examiner: Kevin T. BATES

Filed: October 27, 2000

Group Art Unit: 2155

For: SMART SECRETARY

Date: July 21, 2004

Confirmation No. 7155

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AGENDA FOR TELEPHONIC INTERVIEW ON 22 JULY 2004, 1:00 PM EDT

Participants: Examiner Vu; Ariel S. Rogson; Julie L. Reed
Subject: The Theimer and Wolff references

Brief Description of Arguments to be Presented:

"A space is a shared, network-accessible repository for objects. Processes use the repository as a persistent object storage and exchange mechanism; instead of communicating directly, they coordinate by exchanging objects through spaces. Processes perform simple operations to write new objects into a space, take objects from a space, or read (make a copy of) objects in a space. When taking or reading objects, processes use a simple value-matching lookup to find the objects that matter to them. If a matching object isn't found immediately, then a process can wait until one arrives. Unlike conventional object stores, processes don't modify objects in the space or invoke their methods directly -- while there, objects are just passive data. To modify an object, a process must explicitly remove it, update it, and reinsert it into the space." JavaSpaces Principles, Patterns, and Practice Freeman, Hupfer, Arnold. That is, the term "Space" has a particular meaning. Neither Theimer nor Wolff teach Spaces.

Wolff's agents are dedicated to specific networks and are required to respond. That is, when a message is added to a network, the agent dedicated to that network *must* process the message. In the invention, the Smart Secretary is neither dedicated to a specific Space nor required to respond when it is notified about an object in the Space.

Finally, the routing in Wolff is not managed by the agent, but rather by the system as a whole. The agent for the network in which the message exists *must* process the message, meaning that the agent is not doing the routing; the routing is a consequence of the system architecture.

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